

## ***STUDENT MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT***

There are 5 Student Members of Parliament and there is no set remit for any of these positions to work on throughout the year. You can run on any issues you feel are important and need addressing, so the world is your oyster!

You stand for these positions based upon wanting to work on a particular issue of the student experience at Heriot-Watt that you see as important. This could be anything from wanting a 24-hour shop in the library to increasing the amount of street lighting around campus.

You will be supported by the Union Group most suited to the issue you raise. You will also support the work of Parliament through proactively listening to, and working for students as well as planning activities that meet the needs of students and increases participation in what we do. You will attend and contribute to Parliament Meetings, and take an active role in organising events or campaigns throughout the year, helping to implement motions and ideas that pass at Student Parliament.

*For this role you must be available for in-person training at the beginning of September.*

## ***ABOUT HERIOT-WATT STUDENT UNION***

HWUnion works to support the student experience, whether that is by speaking up for students in university meetings, making students feel like they belong in the Heriot-Watt community, helping people to make a change, championing people when they're doing well or dusting people off when things don't quite go to plan. Our elected officers, staff and volunteers all make this happen under one simple goal. **Students First, Always.**

## ***HOW DO I GET THE JOB?***

This is an **elected** position. Applications open on the 31st January, and close on the 21<sup>st</sup> February, then you'll get your campaign ready! From the 11<sup>th</sup> March, **students will vote** for who they think the Student MPs (along with other elected positions) should be. You get the job by convincing them you're the right person for the role.

You'll be elected based on the experience you have and what skills you'll bring to the team, as well as what you think the key areas for students are going to be next year.

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

This is a job like no other, and no two days will look the same! You'll be elected in on a set of 'promises' you've made to students (your manifesto!), and you also have day-to-day responsibilities on top of that. Some days you'll need to work a bit later (or even start a bit earlier if you're in a global meeting!).

### **THE ROLE IN A NUTSHELL...**

- U Work with the Full Time Officers and fellow Members of Parliament to make the experience for students the best it can be at Heriot-Watt.
- U Attend and engage in Parliament (last Thursday of every month)
- U Support Academic Congress (our big rep meetings that happen three times a year) to drive positive changes on campus
- U Attend and engage in university meetings if needed
- U Help us improve your experience in the role by participating in semesterly feedback surveys and a handover at the end of your term
- U Go and speak to students about their experience
- U Keep students and staff updated with what you're working on and achieving

### **KEY ATTRIBUTES THE STUDENT MP SHOULD HAVE**

Anyone can run to be a Student MP! To be successful in the role, you should be:

- U Passionate about making their time at Heriot-Watt the best it can be for students.
- U Excited to make positive changes – this role is not about keeping things ticking along.
- U Organised – you're going to have to juggle a lot of meetings, emails, and student demands!
- U A brilliant communicator – you're going to have to adapt your language and communication style. One minute you'll be speaking to our students, and the next you could be meeting with a senior member of University staff.
- U A team player – you're going to work within our team of elected officers, and you might have to work on things that aren't always based on education.

## WHO YOU'LL WORK WITH...

The Student MPs have the chance to work with a bunch of people across the Union and the University. In this role you'll need to develop and build relationships with our key stakeholders:

- U Students!
- U Department Officers
- U Members of Parliament
- U Full Time Officers
- U Representation and Democracy Coordinator
- U Activities Coordinator
- U Student Union SMT

## TRAINING

Don't worry, we're not expecting you to understand or know everything before you start! There will be extensive training and support to make sure you're ready and able to take on the job. We will have a training day at the end of August, where you'll get to know the other MPs, and Full Time Officers, and build on skills you'll need in the role!